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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT EXAMINING OPERATION

Applicants: Milind Rajadhyaksha et al.

Serial No.: 10/787,473

Confirmation No. 6991

Filed: 02/26/2004

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ENHANCING CONFOCAL
REFLECTANCE IMAGES OF TISSUE SPECIMENS

Examiner: Roy M. Punnoose

Art Unit: 2877

Atty Docket: ML-0493C

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 14, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect Claims 26-43 without traverse.

In response to the species election, Applicants elect Claims 27-29 and 37-43 for examination along with generic Claims 26 and 30-32 with traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that the species election after first Office Action is untimely as Claims 26-43 were already examined together by the Examiner in a previous Office Action, and thus were either considered a single species, or multiple species by the Examiner sufficiently related to permit their examination together per MPEP 808.02 (i.e., same classification, field of search, and status in the art). Accordingly, withdrawal of the election of species is requested.

Dated: August 5, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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I certify that this document is being deposited on August 5, 2005 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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